To the 82, &c. Once melting is enough. The good melts beſt, and the beſt, firſt. There is ſometimes half odds in the goodneſs. The beſt is diſtinguiſht by its weight.

To the 88, 89. There is a *flight* in the ſmoak, which falling upon the Graſs, poyſons thoſe Cattel that eat of it. They find the taſte of it upon their lips to be ſweet, when the ſmoak chances to fly in their Faces. Brought home, and laid in their houſes, it kills Rats and Mice. If this flight mix with the Water, in which the Oar is waſh't, and be carried away into a ſtreame, it hath poiſoned ſuch Cattel, as have drunk of it after a current of 3 Miles. What of this *flight* falls upon the ſand, they gather up to melt in a Flagg-hearth, and make Shot and Sheet-lead of it.

To the 90. They ſometimes find *Slaggs*, 3, 4, or 5 foot under ground, but ſuch as they judge caſt aſide heretofore.

The *Promiſcuous* Inquiries, annexed in the *Numb.* 19, are moſt of them ſatisfied in the former Anſwers.

But as to the Mineral *Lawes* of *Mendip*, I am promiſed an Account of them, which I ſhall tranſmit to you, as ſoon as I have received it.

Concerning ſubterraneous *Dæmons*, they have never ſeen any, but ſometimes have heard knockings beyond their own Works, which, when follow'd by them, have afforded plenty of Ore.

About 2 years ſince, one *King* of *Wells* in his *Groove* found a piece of Ore, in which they fancied the ſhape of a Man, Eyes, Armes, Leggs, full Breaſt: The whole was about 4 inches in length; the Mine proved rich.

An Extract of a Letter.

Written from Franckfurt *in the* Oder, *by the learned Profeſſor* Johannes Chriſtophorus Beckman *to the* Publiſher, *concerning* Oſteocolla, *and ſome other Obſervables in thoſe parts*; Engliſhed *out of the* High-Dutch, *as follows.*

SIr, the Converſation with ſeveral worthy Members of the *R. Society*, I had the honor to be admitted to, when I was in *England*, as it then awakned me, and begot in me a reſolution, better

better to employ the remainder of my travelling-time, in making Obſervations of a Philoſophical nature, ſo the remembrance of it, ſince my return into my Native Soyle, hath prompted me to enquire after, and to take ſpecial notice of the Productions of Nature there: Among which I ſhall at this time chiefly impart to you, what hath occurr'd to me about the *Oſteocolla*; which I have therefore the more carefully obſerv'd, becauſe I have hitherto met in Authors with little ſatisfaction concerning the ſame.

1. Therefore, I find, that it growes in a *Sandy*, yet not *Gravelly* Soyle, and not at all (that I know) in any rich or Clayie Ground.

2. It ſhoots down two mens depth under ground, ſo that, being found above the ſurface of the Earth, you may ſtill find downwards of its branches till you come to the ſaid depth. Where it is to be noted, that the branches moſt commonly grow ſtreight up, yet ſometimes alſo ſpread ſidewayes.

3. The branches are not of an equal thickneſs, but, like plants growing above ground, ſome of them thicker, ſome ſlenderer; and the farther they are diſtant from the common ſtem, the thinner they are; the ſtalk being thickeſt of all, uſually equalling the thickneſs of an ordinary Arm or Legg, and the branches, the thickneſs of on's little finger.

4. The Place, where 'tis to be found, hath its peculiar mark, to find the *Oſteocolla* by; which is, that upon the Sand, which is here every where yellowiſh, there appears a whitiſh fatty Sand, which, if it be dug into, hath under it a dark fatty, and, how hot and dry ſoever the other Sand be, a ſomewhat moiſt and putrid matter, like rotten Wood; which matter ſpreads it ſelf here and there in the Earth, juſt as the *Oſteocolla* it ſelf doth, and is called by thoſe, whom I have employ'd to look for it, the *Flower* of this Subſtance.

5. The *Oſteocolla* being thus found, is altogether ſoft, yet rather friable than ductil: Wherefore if one hath the curioſity of getting out of the ground a whole piece of it with its branches, he muſt very carefully remove the Sand every way from it, and then let it lie ſo a while; its quality being, That remaining expoſed to the Sun for half an hour or ſomewhat longer, it growes

growes to that hardneſs, as 'tis found in the ſhops of *Apothecaries*.

6. It ſeems to be a kind of *Marle*, or to have great affinity with it; of which we here alſo have great ſtore, yet not near thoſe places, where I have found *Oſteocolla*.

7. It requireth alſo time to come to maturity; which appears from hence, that in the very ſame place, where I digg'd ſome of it the laſt year, I this year found others; yet with this difference, that *thoſe* were grown hard, after the manner before deſcribed, but *theſe* remain ſtill ſoft and friable, though now in the fifth Moneth.

8. The cauſe of its being divided into ſo many branches, I conjecture to be from the *Roots*, which ſpread themſelves here and there in the Earth, ſo that the matter gathers and ſetleth itſelf about them, and afterwards according to the diviſion of the roots, acquires a plantal form and appearance. Whence it alſo ſeems to proceed, that through the midſt of the *Oſteocolla* there alwayes paſſeth a dark line, which is thought to be a piece of the Root. And it often happens, that that ſtroke loſeth it ſelf by little and little, and the *Oſteocolla* in the middle grows clear; which comes to paſſe, when the Root by the corruption, begun in the *Oſteocolla*, is reduced to powder. Yet have I found a place hereabout, where the *Oſteocolla* was not hollow at all; but there I obſerved, that in ſtead of ſetling about a big root, it had gathered it ſelf about many ſmall *fibres*; whence alſo this ſort had acquired pores thorough its whole length, but no cavity, like the other.

On another occaſion I may alſo communicate to you ſome particulars concerning the *Gramen Iſchæmon*, call'd by others *Gramen Dactyloides*, or *Sanguinella*; and the *Gramen Aquaticum cum longiſſima pannicula*, mention'd by *Bauhinus*, and growing here in great plenty; as alſo the Obſervables in the *Foreſt*, call'd the *Hartz*, which I intend ſhortly to viſit, and wherein are to be found very conſiderable both *Copper* and *Silver*-Mines, ſtore of *Lapis fiſſilis*, and a ſort of ſtone, which by Raine grows altogether ſoft, and a place, call'd *Bawmans Hole*, like that of *Oky-hole* about *Wells* in *England*, &c.

I ſhall now conclude with giving you notice, that the 1. of

March laſt, there fell an unuſual ſort of *Snow*, which I conſidered with more than ordinary attention. It had none of the ordinary figures, but was made up of little *Pillars*, whereof ſome were *Tetragonal*, ſome *Hexagonal*, with an neat *baſis*. On the top they were ſomewhat larger, as the heads of Columnes are. Conſidering the whole ſhape, we thought fit to give it the name of *Nix Columnaris*.

An Extract of a Letter lately written by an obſerving perſon to a Friend of the Publiſher, *concerning the vertue of* Antimony.

I Tryed that a Boare, to whom I had given an ounce of crude Antimony at a time, putting him into the Sty, would be fat a fortnight before another, having no Antimony, upon the like feeding. Antimony will recover a Pig of the Meaſles; by which it appears to be a great purifyer of the Blood. I knew a Horſe, that was very lean and ſcabbid, and could not be fatted by any keeping, to whom Antimony was given for two Moneths together every morning, and that upon the ſame keeping he became exceeding fat. One of my own Horſes having had the faſhions, and being cured, had notwithſtanding extream running leggs; ſo that after he had paſſed the courſe of Farryers twice, to be cured, it was not done; but upon my giving him Antimony but one week, he was preſently healed.

The manner of uſing it, is this. Take one drachme of crude Antimony powder'd for one Horſe, and when you give him his Oats in a morning, ſhake it out upon his Oats in a little heap in the middle: If he be hungry, and you keep off his head from every other part of the Oats, he will ſnap it up in his mouth at one bite, when you let him goe. Some Horſes greatly like it, others refuſe it after the firſt. If he refuſe it, cover it with Oats thinly; its done: or make it in Balls.